New tourism development projects for Orissa

4776. SHRISURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

the number of tourism development projects taken up in the State of Orissa with Central assistance during the last three years;

the amount of Central assistance released for those projects and actual amount spent on these projects during these years;

whether any new tourism development project have been proposed to be taken up in that State in 2003-2004; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) During the last three years the number of tourism development projects sanctioned in Orissa are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
2000-O1	4	156.90	47.07
2001-02	4	38.05	27.12
2002-03	2	47.50	15.75

Out of these 10 projects, 3 projects have been dropped on the advice of the State Government.

(c) and (d) During 2003-2004, no project has been sanctioned as yet.

Investment in travel and tourism sector

4777. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

whether Government have invited International entrepreneurs to invest in travel and tourism in view of vast opportunities and Government priority to developing the multi-crore sector; and

if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has identified tourism as a high priority industry for investment. 100% Foreign Direct Investment is permitted in the hotels and

tourism sector on automatic approval late, with a view to encouraging mteraauonal entrepreneurs to invest in the *industry*

The Government of India, Department of Taoism has also brought out a special brochure "Investment Opportunities in Tourism" which is distributed through the India tourism offices.

Chain of acience cities

4778 SHRI P PRABHAKAR REDDY Will the Mimstex of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to stale:

whether Government have decided to set op a chain of science cities in different parts of the country;

if so. the ~~d~~rta'fc thrpof citifs to word powred happay pnitially together with the funding pattern; and

whether it is a fact that the Government

years back that a science city be set up in Hyderabad similar to one Auctioning in Kolkata and if so, Government's ~~re~~sponse thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and(b) The Government of India facilitates the setting op of Science Cities on the basis of proposals received from agencies including the State Governments, after examining the merits of the project proposals. So far. Government has approved setting up of Science Cities in Kapnrthala (Pnnjah) *and* Ganrihinagar_(Gujarat) In addition, the Regional Science Centre at Lucknow has been taken up for up gradation to a Regional Science City.

As per guidelines now formulated for setting up of Science Cities, the total cost of the Science City shall be between Rs. 65—70 crores Equir*share of the Central Government and the concerned State Government shall be 11%. The balance equity of 74% shall beraised through prhate aatrepienans or any other agency of the State Government.

Any proposal for Science Cities will be ~~uai~~Mricied only if they ~~UMIIMUI~~ to these guidelines.

(c) The State Go~~vernment~~ of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to prepare a detailed project proposal in conformity with the prescribed gnidelines alongwith the feasibility report, for Government of India is consideration.